

Frequently Asked Questions for the Small Rural Pharmacy Grants Program

1. Which MCOs are eligible?

- Claims from all of the 9 HealthChoice MCOs are eligible for consideration for the grant funds:
 - Aetna Better Health
 - Amerigroup Community Care
 - Jai Medical Systems
 - Kaiser Permanente
 - Maryland Physicians Care
 - MedStar Family Choice
 - Priority Partners
 - UnitedHealthcare
 - University of Maryland Health Partners

2. How will the Program confirm the number of MCO prescriptions our pharmacy has filled for CY2019 in order to determine our award amount?

- The Program will be using MCO prescription volume data for each pharmacy from reports provided by the Medicaid Pharmacy Claims Processing vendor (referenced by the pharmacy's NPI #) and will ultimately be using this data to determine each pharmacy's award amount for the grant funds. If the number of prescriptions on your application differs significantly from the number the Program has from its reports, we will contact you to discuss these differences.

3. Am I eligible for a grant if I filled more than 30,000 MCO prescriptions in CY 2019? If not, can I still get funding for 30,000 prescriptions filled by my pharmacy for MCOs?

- No, you are not eligible for this grant program if your pharmacy filled more than 30,000 MCO prescriptions in CY 2019. However, if when running your reports to find the number of MCO prescriptions your pharmacy filled for CY 2019, you find that the number is not significantly higher than 30,000, contact Deanna Beebe (deanna.beebe@maryland.gov) to compare your prescription volume with the Program's. As indicated in question 2 above, the Program will be using MCO prescription volume data for each pharmacy from reports provided by the Medicaid Pharmacy Claims Processing vendor. If the vendor's data indicate that your store's volume is 30,000 prescriptions or less, you may qualify for the grant.

4. Does "30,000 prescriptions or less" mean MCO prescriptions only, not total prescriptions, for the pharmacy?

- Yes, the "30,000 prescriptions or less filled in CY 2019" eligibility requirement relates to MCO prescriptions only. This does not include the Medicaid fee-for-service prescriptions for participants who only have the "red and white" Medical Assistance Card, Medicare prescriptions, or prescriptions covered by commercial or private insurance carriers.

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5. How can I apply if I have multiple eligible store locations under the same ownership?

- As long as you only have 3 or fewer stores under the same ownership, and each of your store locations meets the Program's eligibility criteria, each store location is eligible for its own grant award. You must submit a separate grant application for each eligible store location in order for each location to receive an award. Store locations cannot share grant funds.

6. Am I still eligible to apply if I live in a "rural" area but my pharmacy is not located within one of the zip codes on CMS's "Zip Codes to Carrier Locality" File or the list on Attachment 8 of the Request for Applications (RFA) document?

- No, your pharmacy is not eligible for the grant program if your pharmacy's address is not within one of the zip codes indicated as rural on CMS's "Zip Codes to Carrier Locality" File or listed in Attachment 8 of the RFA packet. There are no exceptions to this eligibility requirement.

7. What are the appropriate uses for grant funds?

- Grant funds shall be used to cover the costs of dispensing prescriptions. If you are concerned about whether your potential use for grant funds meets these criteria, please contact Deanna Beebe (deanna.beebe@maryland.gov) to discuss your ideas further.